

**MINUTES OF THE  
HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION MEETING  
FEBRUARY 21, 2006**

The regular session of the Auburn City Historical Design Review Commission was called to order on February 21, 2006 at 6:05 p.m. by Chrm. Thompson in the Council Chambers, 1225 Lincoln Way, Auburn, California.

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Kosla, Merz, Murphy, Smith, Briggs, Chrm. Thompson

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** Elder, W. White

**STAFF PRESENT** Will Wong, Community Development Director; Steve Geiger, Associate Planner; Sue Fraizer, Administrative Assistant

**ITEM I: CALL TO ORDER**

**ITEM II: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ITEM III: APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of January 17, 2006 were approved as submitted.

**ITEM IV: PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**ITEM V: PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS**

- A. Historic Design Review – 160 Elm Avenue (Martin Ray)**  
**File HDR 06-5.** The applicant requests approval of a freestanding sign to be mounted on an existing pole at 160 Elm Avenue.

Planner Geiger gave the Staff Report. The applicant is an auto sales business. There are two signs on the site. One sign is illegal and will be removed.

Comm. Murphy asked if it was discussed with the applicant that the City is trying to dress up the Elm Avenue corridor.

Planner Geiger said it has been explained to the applicant that there has been a change in the Zoning Code, requiring that sign permit requests in downtown be reviewed and approved by the Historic Design Review Commission.

Director Wong further explained the change in the ordinance and the desire by the community for design review.

Comm. Murphy asked if the lighting will be updated.

Planner Geiger responded that he has not seen that proposed.

Comm. Murphy said he'd like to see a nicer statement with the sign.

Comm. Briggs stated that this area is the gateway to downtown, and the sign is inappropriate for the area.

The hearing was opened.

The applicant, Martin Ray stated that they are fairly adamant about keeping the pole sign as it gives them visibility. He is very flexible about the type of sign.

Comm. Murphy asked the applicant if he'd be opposed to dressing up the sign.

Mr. Ray said he is not opposed to that at all however he would like to keep the colors of red, white and blue.

Comm. Murphy made a sketch as an example and showed this to Mr. Ray.

Mr. Ray said he would support a sign as shown in the sketch. He has already come up with some different designs.

Al Castorina, real estate broker for the property, stated that the pole starts from the ground and goes through the building, and it could be dressed up to look a lot better.

There were no further comments. The public hearing was closed.

Comm. Merz said that the business definitely needs the visibility of a sign mounted on a pole.

Comm. Kosla stated that some changes to the sign need to be made to make it more appealing.

Comm. Murphy suggested a condition stating that a 4'x10' sign be surrounded with a 6'x12' heavy timber frame and rock at the base to match the existing rock, per the sketch he had drawn. He'd like to add that there be some type of wording to require more sophisticated graphics.

There was discussion about temporary signage.

Director Wong suggested that the item be continued for 2 weeks to allow time for the graphics to be re-done. He noted that the proposed sign contains a lot of information and that the applicant should look at simplifying it.

Comm. Murphy **MOVED** to:

Continue File # HDR 06-5 to the Historic Design Review Commission meeting of March 7, 2006 with the following conditions:

- A. A 4'x10' sign be proposed, framed by heavy timbers and having a rock veneer base, per the sketch.
- B. More sophisticated graphics be proposed for the sign.
- C. Allow two temporary banners for up to 30 days subject to the review and approval of the Community Development Department.

Comm. Smith **SECONDED**.

AYES:	Merz, Murphy, Smith, Kosla, Briggs, Chrm. Thompson
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	Elder, White

The motion was approved.

**ITEM VI. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT FOLLOW-UP REPORTS**

- A. None.
- B. Director Wong noted that the Conflict of Interest training is March 6, 2006
- C. None.

**ITEM VII. HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION REPORTS**

None.

**ITEM VIII. FUTURE HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

**ITEM IX. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Fraizer, Administrative Assistant